



MARYLAND STATE & D.C. AFL-CIO

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HB 18 - Transportation Network Companies - Transportation Network Operators - Minimum Payments for Passenger Trips

House Environment and Transportation Committee

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SUPPORT

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Maryland State and DC AFL-CIO

Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 18. On behalf of our 700 affiliated unions, I offer the following comments.

Transportation Network Company (TNC) operators connect passengers to their destinations safely and efficiently, providing an essential service that many of our residents rely on for their everyday transportation needs. Despite the essential nature of their work, driver pay does not meet the changing cost-of-living, which leaves operators earning less sustainable wages.

Oftentimes, workers do not know how their pay is calculated, why rates change, or why a trip that once paid a fair amount no longer does. This lack of transparency leaves drivers with no method of recourse when something is wrong with their pay. HB 18 directly addresses this by establishing a fair minimum payment standard for every trip originating in Maryland.

By setting baseline per-mile and per-minute rates, guaranteeing a minimum trip payment, and ensuring drivers receive a majority of cancellation fees, this bill brings transparency and stability to a growing industry. States such as New York, Washington, Minnesota, and Massachusetts have implemented similar policies, recognizing the importance of these workers to their states.

Maryland must establish basic, transparent pay standards for the drivers who support our transportation system. For these reasons, we urge a favorable report on HB 18.



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